



NOAA Restoration Center

Willow Creek Anadromous Fish Enhancement

Project Description

NOAA and FishAmerica will partner with the US Forest Service to provide large woody debris in key locations of Willow Creek to increase habitat complexity for threatened coho and chinook salmon and steelhead, where limited in-stream cover appears to be a significant problem to spawning fish.

Project Nickname Willow Creek Anadromous Fish (FAF-99)

Location Willow Creek, Humboldt County, CA, 95573 SWR

Program Community-based Restoration

Congressional District CA 1

Lat, Long Coordinates -123.7011, 40.9215

Land Ownership Private

Implementation Start Date 07-SEP-00

Implementation End Date 30-SEP-00

River Basin Trinity

HUC 18010211

Geographic Identifier Trinity River

USGS Topo Quad SALYER

Project Status Implementation Complete

Project Type Restoration

Project Status Description

Landmark near town of Willow Cr., CA

Number of Volunteers 10

Volunteer Hours 20

Volunteer Description

Proposed Project? **Project Closed?** Y **FY Completed** 2000

Habitat Information

Type	Acres Created	Acres Re-established	Acres Rehabilitated	Acres Enhanced	Acres Protected	Stream Miles	# Plants/ Animals
stream/river channel						1	

Species Information

Commonname	Genus	Species	Population Name	NMFS Status	Species Type
Salmon, chinook	<i>Oncorhynchus</i>	<i>tshawytscha</i>	California Coastal	Threatened	animal
Salmon, coho	<i>Oncorhynchus</i>	<i>kisutch</i>	Central California Coast	Threatened	animal
Trout, steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus</i>	<i>mykiss</i>	?	?	animal

Partners

US Forest Service
Willow Creek Community Services District

Restoration Techniques

in-stream placement of large woody debris/ structure
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Contacts

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Local

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NOAA

NOAA Involvement

source of funding

Monitoring Information

Characteristic	Type
Instream LWD	Structural
Presence of boulders	Structural
Finfish utilization	Functional

Additional Info

Funding Information

Funding Mechanism	FY Awarded	NOAA Contribution	Partnership Contribution	Total Partnership Contribution
Fish America Foundation	1999	\$4,667	\$4,667	\$9,334
TOTALS		\$4,667	\$4,667	\$9,334

Other Non-Federal \$ **Other Federal \$** **Total Project Cost**

Funding Recipient Willow Creek Community Services District

Funding Comments***Project Abstract***

Past land management practices and erosive flooding have degraded fish habitat and reduced fish numbers to very low levels in the 1970s and 1980s. Bears and other predators consume many of these spawners before they can spawn due to lack of habitat complexity and refugia in Willow Creek. NOAA and FishAmerica partnered with the US Forest Service to provide large woody debris in key locations of Willow Creek to increase habitat complexity for threatened coho and chinook salmon and steelhead, where limited in-stream cover was a significant problem to spawning fish.

Heavy equipment was used to place logs in appropriate locations without damaging existing riparian vegetation. The large woody debris were placed in several cover structure configurations: digger logs, log jams, and log/boulder combinations according to site potentials and needs. Large wood was anchored using cable to bedrock, native boulder or imported boulder depending on the site. The total project costs were approximately \$27,000.